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Prince Maximilian's Peace Bid.

The German bid for a cessation of hostilities made to President WILSON through Prince MAXIMILIAN, the new Chancellor, will be no more successful in manipulating a "negotiated peace" than Austria's was. The President knew how to answer Austria; he will know how to answer Prussia.

It is true that the Chancellor phrases his peace talk to the Reichstag so as to make it seem that the Imperial Government is in accord with the President's aims and ideals. But, as Mr. WILSON himself has put it, the German Government does not think in the same terms as we and the rest of the world. Wherefore its mere words cannot be accepted as honest. It is true also that the Chancellor gave the Reichstag solemn assurance on Sunday that now the German people, through their representatives in the Reichstag, are the dominant force in their Government. But in the same breath he tells the Reichstag that without its knowledge or the knowledge of anybody the Imperial autocracy on last Friday night approached President WILSON.

For the Allies to agree to stop hammering the Germans pending a bargaining for terms, until winter came to the relief of the Kaiser's collapsing military machine, would be an act of madness on the part of the Allies; and the Allies are not madmen.

The Hun has no reserves of man power. He has no ammunition. He has no supplies. How could he be trusted not to make use of a truce to patch up his shattered divisions and to replenish his exhausted stores of guns and shells? How could he be trusted not to withdraw his very soldiers from the battle line only to put them to work in the munition factories so that, breaking off negotiations, the German armies would be able to take the field again in better fighting form?

From the Huns the only act that the Allies can trust is unconditional surrender.

Buy Bonds This Month; Next Month Get Rid of Kitchin.

In spite of Mr. KITCHIN of Scotland Neck, North Carolina, the people of the United States must not fail to raise for the Fourth Liberty Loan its full six billions of dollars.

No man shall gainsay that this Liberty Loan war work for the nation and for the world has to be done over the almost insurmountable barriers which KITCHIN raises against it. To indulge his fantastic notions of economics KITCHIN tinkers a watch with a sledge hammer. He bores out the dam whose water power turns the mill wheel. He fines the prospector who drills for oil. He penalizes the business which, instead of squandering, husbands some of its earnings for a rainy day. These things KITCHIN does and this mischief KITCHIN works to everybody because he doesn't know any better.

But there is worse yet. To slake his thirst of sectional vengeance KITCHIN hunts out everything that thrives north of Mason and Dixon's line, as he swore he would do, and tries with his taxes to break its back. Thus, throughout the very part of the country where the great bulk of the taxes must be paid and the great bulk of the bonds must be subscribed, KITCHIN, with his economic lunacy but poisonous sectionalism, bedevils industry and business, terrorizes taxpayers and jeopards even this Liberty Loan.

Nevertheless, immeasurable as is the damage which KITCHIN's tax programme has done and still further will do to the country, the people of the United States, the people north of Mason and Dixon's line, must raise the six billions of the Liberty Loan to carry on the war, as it is now being carried on, to the triumph of our armies and to the security of the nation. Nothing else at this moment can be so important a duty, so imperative a duty, so sacred a duty, as to raise the money to fight the war.

The people of the United States, the people north of Mason and Dixon's line, have KITCHIN to settle with, and they must take up that work too; but they can attend to it later. They can get rid of KITCHIN by electing a Republican House of Representatives which will confine his political activities to the boundaries of his Scotland Neck district. But now they must buy bonds. The rich man must buy them, though KITCHIN may make him poor. The poor man must buy them, though KITCHIN may make him destitute. The professional man must buy them, though KITCHIN may destroy his occupation. The wage earner must buy them, though KITCHIN may cost him his job.

All must dip to the bottom of their pockets for coin to put into the bonds. If their cash is gone they must borrow to put into the bonds; they must take the bonds on the instalment plan. In any way they can arrange they must take the bonds until the whole of the six billions is cleared up. Then, in the very next month, in scarcely more than a fortnight after the Liberty Loan subscriptions close, they can go to the polls, vote for Republican nominees for Congress, overturn the present Democratic House majority and get rid of KITCHIN.

But all this week and all next week, letting KITCHIN wait his turn till November 4, everybody must buy bonds, must buy and buy.

They Took Thought and Get a Scolding.

Several hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers and visitors in the city were inconvenienced and made uncomfortable on Saturday because the Mayor and the Public Service Commission, fearing the effects on submarine and bridge structures of the explosions in New Jersey, shut off the traffic over and under the rivers. They had no opportunity to inform the public in advance of the curtailment of transportation facilities, and consequently great confusion and no little hardship were imposed on citizens deprived of their customary means of conveyance about town.

Naturally, the victims of this official precaution are considerably irritated, and the authorities are being scolded vigorously for what is called their unjustified timidity.

But had the Mayor and Public Service Commission taken no steps to safeguard passengers in tunnels and on bridges, and had an explosion in New Jersey wrecked a tunnel or a bridge, the persons who now most violently denounce the authorities as overcautious would have been loudest in their condemnation of their lethargy in a dangerous situation. It would have been pointed out that they should have foreseen and provided against every contingency, and their neglect so to do would have been held to constitute a grave indictment of their capacity for their offices.

They enforced safety first, and displeased those whom they protected, but they did not err on the side of overconfidence.

The Improved and Dignified French Tank.

"Reapers of machine guns" is what the French call their new tanks. Much of the recent fighting has been in the fields of ripening grain, which have afforded cover for the nests of stinging German Maxims. The metaphor suggested itself forcefully. Every despatch pays tribute to the prowess of these agile monsters, particularly the new light models. If General BYNG's lumbering machines at Cambrai drove descriptive writers to the Jurassic age for similes, the new Renaults may as aptly be compared to rhinoceroses, which are not quite so incredible as prehistoric creatures, but still bizarre enough in appearance, almost as tough of hide, swift and just as murderous.

The Renault is six meters—about twenty feet—long and two meters wide. Its crew is two men. One of them drives. The other, in a mushroom shaped tower which he can revolve entirely upon its axis, is the gunner, working either a 37 millimeter piece or a machine gun, as the case may be. The machine makes ten or twelve miles an hour over the worst kind of going, and will climb grades, given any sort of footing at all for its caterpillar treads, exceeding 45 degrees.

The French have two other models of tanks, the Schneider, which mounts a "75" and two machine guns and has a crew of six, and the Saint-Chamond, with a "75," four machine guns and a crew of nine. The latter is driven by a combination of gas motor and dynamo. But the Renault, the newest born and the smallest, has become the favorite child.

The French say the German tank, which looks like the Saint-Chamond, except that it has a beak fore and aft and carries a crew of eighteen, a 57 mm. gun and six machine guns, is "prey just made for our 75s." It is clumsy in manoeuvre and its low hung platform and low armor protecting its caterpillars frequently foul the ground, as they have less than six inches clearance. It takes no great shrewdness to suspect that what is true of the other fellow's big tanks must be true in some degree of ours. Hence the popularity of the baby.

Yet it was the "heavies" which first won the hearts of the high command after two failures, or partial failures, had severely shaken confidence in the tanks. It happened on June 11, when General MANGIN with four divisions at his disposal faced eleven divisions of Germans marching on Compiègne. The German offensive was in full stride. The odds were almost three to one, numerically. Three to one—but he had tanks! Lots of tanks. With them he did the impossible. The German advance was turned into a retreat, almost a rout. Belloy was retaken; German losses in men and material were enormous. The tanks made good. It became clear that previous semi-failures had been because the machines had not been used properly. There had not been enough of them and there had been small effort at concealment. The German airplanes had spotted them from afar. The result had not been pleasant.

But now the tanks are a regularly recognized fifth arm, with insignia and a name of their own. The device is two cannon crossed behind a casque with closed visor. The corps is known as "l'Artillerie d'Assaut." General PÉTAIN cited them all—the designers, the workmen who made them, the mechanics who keep them in repair and the fighting personnel—with the generous words: "The infantry unanimously is ready to share with the new arm the glory of which it has been so jealous. . . . You are well worthy of the nation." That was for work from June 11 to July 18. Not that they have rested since.

And because the new tanks have been so great a success, a distinguished party of military and civil officials went around the other day to the headquarters of one General ESTIENNE, taking with them the cravat of a commander of the Legion of Honor which they hoped "Père" ESTIENNE would wear. He was not to be found, not for a long while. At last he was discovered. He had crawled beneath the working model of a new tank and was studying its details, oblivious to the hue and cry.

General ESTIENNE, the public now is informed, designed the French tanks, nursed and coddled them through the workshops, put them in the field, manned them, drilled them, and to-day commands the whole new branch of the service.

He was born in Condé-en-Barrois, Lorraine, in 1860. He had not been out of l'Ecole Polytechnique many years before he was recognized as a technical expert. He designed a goniometre, which the French army adopted. He originated methods of indirect fire, which now are used in all the armies of the world. In 1910 at Vincennes he was active in attempting to form an aviation service to be an auxiliary to the artillery. When war broke out he went to the Belgian front, the only artillery commander, it is asserted, who entered the war with two airplanes to regulate the fire of his batteries. He was at the Marne and later commanded the artillery in the sectors of Vaux and Douaumont.

He wrote to General PÉTAIN, December 1, 1915: "I regard as possible the realization of mechanical tractor vehicles permitting the transport across all obstacles and under fire, at a speed of more than six kilometers an hour, of infantry and cannon."

There, almost three years old, is the complete formula. General PÉTAIN knew the man and his ability, and told him, in effect, "Go to it." He did so.

But it is not well to say "tank" to him. A correspondent for *L'Illustration* ventured the word recently and got this retort:

"Tank! But talk French. Sapristi! Why the devil do you want to call our machines by an English name, which means tub, cistern, or I don't know what not?"

That is Père ESTIENNE. He calls a spade a spade, and a tank a "Char d'Assaut."

Sailing Orders.

Rear Admiral EDWARD W. EBERLE, the superintendent of the Naval Academy, has not allowed the natural disappointment he has experienced because he cannot have sea duty to spoil his disposition or relax his efforts in his present supremely important post. He wants to get into the fight, but if he must remain for a time on the job of making fighters out of the students at the academy he is going to make them the best of fighters. Nor does he confine himself to the technicalities of his profession, and the ten paragraphs of advice he has issued to the corps for the general guidance of its members are so sensible and so simply expressed that they deserve a larger circle of readers than that for which they were originally intended.

Here is what Admiral EBERLE says to the gentlemen whose progress toward submarines, destroyers, battleships and glory he is guiding:

"Do your day's work every day.

"Strive for 100 per cent. efficiency in everything you undertake.

"Obey orders and regulations cheerfully, honestly, conscientiously.

"Do your full duty on time all the time.

"Practise self-control and self-denial.

"Be considerate of others; be helpful and cheerful and courteous; be a gentleman under all circumstances and maintain a fine sense of personal honor.

"Don't be a 'growler' or a 'sea lawyer' or a 'drifter' or a 'dud.'

"Be true to yourself; be true to your messmates; be true to your task; be true to the great naval service to which it is your priceless privilege to belong.

"Always steer a straight course, and always answer with a cheerful 'Aye, aye, sir!'

"Be a man and never say die."

There is not a trade, profession or calling whose practitioners cannot study these sailor made words with profit; not a worker, whatever the conditions under which he strives to do his duty, who cannot derive good from them. Observance of their terms calls for no superhuman ingenuity, for no abnormal effort, for no exhausting application. Obedience to them by everybody would smooth the road for all of us. The individual benefits to be derived from conduct shaped to meet these counsels of wisdom and experience are obvious; the public good that adhesion to their teachings would produce is incalculable.

The youngsters at Annapolis are to be congratulated on their opportunity to mould their lives according to a model excellent in spirit and unimpeachable in form.

The Bridge Builder.

The name of Roebling will be forever associated with the Brooklyn Bridge, the first structure to span the East River, and in the judgment of competent critics the most beautiful of all the bridges about New York. There is a daintiness and a spiritual quality about this triumph of engineering skill, from whatever point of vantage it is examined, that are lacking in the bridges that have been constructed more recently. These are not without their charms, but for pictorial effect the palm must go to the Roebling creation.

To JOHN A. ROEBLING we owe the suspension bridge over the Niagara River, the Cincinnati bridge, with its clear span of 1,057 feet, and the design for the Brooklyn Bridge. Mr. ROEBLING died from an injury before work began, but the bridge was completed by his sons, WASHINGTON A. and CHARLES G., and CHARLES died on Saturday at his home in Trenton. Changing requirements of traffic have necessitated considerable alterations in the bridge, but these have not modified the design or impaired the Roebling fame. Rather they have made plain the soundness of the original engineering, which produced a creation capable of expansion to meet the needs of conditions undreamed of when JOHN A. ROEBLING drew his plans. It is interesting to recall that WASHINGTON A. ROEBLING did a large part of his work on the bridge from a sickroom, wherein he was confined by illness brought about through his almost continuous stay in the compressed air caissons.

CHARLES G. ROEBLING performed another service for New York in the transportation to this country of Cleopatra's needle, which now stands in Central Park. This was a task of great difficulty, the successful completion of which aroused high enthusiasm. Mr. ROEBLING was a man of broad interests, and one of his enterprises was the model town which bears the family name and in which a serious and intelligent effort was made to solve the social problems arising from the employment of large numbers of men and women in great factories and shops operated under one management.

Mr. ROEBLING's achievements are intimately associated with the development of New York, and it gives a fair index of the tremendous growth of this city to reflect that in one man's lifetime the East River has been bridged and tunnelled in a manner that renders it negligible as a barrier between the two islands on which so great a part of this settlement is situated.

Registration Week.

The fact that every ounce of energy the country can generate is being devoted to the sale of Liberty bonds does not relieve any citizen qualified to vote from the duty of registering this week for the November election. Heavy as is the burden that public spirited men and women have taken on themselves, their necessary labor to insure the success of the Fourth Liberty Loan cannot be accepted as an excuse for failure to go to the registration places and put their names on the list of voters.

The circumstances under which the Congress and State elections are to be held are such as to make it highly desirable to have an unusually heavy vote in November. With Americans fighting in Europe for democracy, the greatest of democracies should give at the ballot boxes convincing testimony that inside its boundaries the high privileges of popular rule are understood and valued.

In the greatest State of this greatest of democracies domestic questions of much complexity must be answered by the Administration that will be elected next month. This Administration should enter on its task with the reassuring knowledge that its election was the outcome of a contest in which the citizenship of the State was completely represented.

It is particularly desirable that the women of the State, on whom the right of suffrage has so recently been conferred, should take full advantage of their new opportunity to participate in public affairs. The privilege of voting should not be neglected or ignored. The right to cast a ballot carries with it the responsibility of making that ballot count. It is the duty of the qualified citizen to vote, to exert influence in the government, and to utilize the weapons of popular rule for the protection of popular rights.

That trite warning "The man who does not register cannot vote" must be amended this year to include women. It has been worn threadbare by repetition, but its truthful quality remains unimpaired. A heavy registration this week will mean a heavy vote in November, and that is needed at this juncture of affairs.

Any German sincerely desiring peace can obtain information of the highest value to himself by applying to General JOHN J. PERSHING, U. S. A., now a visitor in Europe.

Baron VON HUSSAREK, the Austrian Prime Minister since last July, has resigned. The new Premier, it is added, possibly will be Professor HEINRICH LAMMASCH, one of the leaders of the Austrian peace party.—*News from London.*

With what affection peace is regarded when the sword is wrested from the hand of the professional militarist by a world in arms!

Chicago's great dry goods jobbers report that orders for ginghams exceed the supply by 40 or 50 per cent. Therefore about one-half the Western women who know what makes women attractive must for a time remain in ginghamless envy of their more forehanded sisters already dressed in the fabric which makes the pretty look prettier.

Vote in a universal election: sign the bond subscription ballot!

AN OIL FAMINE.

What Will Happen When the Business of Prospecting Is Tax Killed.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You have printed several striking editorial articles on the petroleum situation in America. The situation is so serious that I do not believe that the nation will ever awaken to it until too late—after the harm has been done. Oil production depends upon prospectors. On account of the war revenue bill tax provisions the business of prospecting is becoming defunct. Thousands of prospectors are deserting. Consequently a famine is a possibility.

Did you ever stop to consider what would happen if you wakened up some morning and found the world had no more oil, gas, gasolene?

That is what an oil famine would mean, for the development of gasolene depends on the development of oil; natural gas is usually found associated with oil pools and petroleum is the essential ingredient of the artificial gas of most cities.

Every navy in the world would be crippled, for though many of the big ships are equipped with furnaces which burn both oil and coal, the most modern war vessels depend on oil for fuel, and if they had not to change their engines they would at least have to hasten away to some coal base to stoke up. Every aeroplane would come down and stay down, and aeroplanes are both eyes and scouts to the modern army.

The flying boats, which have accounted for so many submarines and Zeppelins—one recently destroyed two of each in one flight—would fold their wings and fly no more. The 4,000,000 to 5,000,000 motor cars that course the highways of America, saving horse cost and horse feed and man power, would come to a stop. The 400,000 to 500,000 big motor trucks engaged in war transportation here and abroad would stall in midroad.

The big guns at the front could no longer be moved. The tanks, which have terrified the enemy, could not lumber along another foot.

Three-quarters of the homes of the city would be without fuel for their kitchen stoves. The tractors that plough forty acres a day of the great Western grain fields would easily have to be replaced by forty horses and twenty men, at a cost per tractor easily of $550 per team and $60 a month for each man. Threshing gangs in the West would go out of commission, and the old horse-power threshers could no more thresh modern monster grain crops than a team could plough forty acres in a day. Production of food would be cut in half by one fell swath; and as to prices—if the prices have kited to-day with all the big machines at work, you can guess what would happen to prices if all the big machines suddenly went on strike; and it is on strike all the big machines of war and food will have to go if the world wakens some morning without supplies of oil, gasolene, gas.

It sounds grotesque and fanciful. Well, so did it sound grotesque and fanciful more than a year ago when certain coal men predicted that we should run into a coal famine last winter; and the coal famine came all too true. We did not grunt and we did not grumble. It was war, and we took our medicine stoically and grinned; but if we had to take the same medicine as to petroleum, gasolene, gas, we should—let us put it plainly—lose the war. Troops could not be transported in time, guns could not be handled in time, aeroplanes could not be lifted from the ground, motor trucks could not run if we had an oil famine.

Plainly as the case can be stated, here it is in A B C terms, not as the scientist would put it, not as the oil actuary would put it—in fact, this statement of the case will give both the scientist and the oil actuary goose flesh—but here it is as it will hit you; as it will hit the world if you don't wake up and handle the situation.

Three sets of factors enter into oil and gas production, exactly as they enter into gold and silver and copper production. Each is distinct from the other and plays his game with a lone hand.

Each is utterly dependent on the other. Not one could go ahead without the other. Yet no one can do the other's job.

The first is the prospector who goes out alone over the hills through the mountains, across the desert, preferring the stars for his roof, at home with frying pan and hard pan, lured by the gambler's everlasting passion of one lucky strike compensating for a lifetime of seeking without finding. This class has been drained of men by the greater lure of war's adventure.

The second is the promoter, quite as much a gambler as the prospector, but a gambler for the love of gain. He grubstakes the prospector. He outfits him in food and clothing, perhaps $1,000 a year, on a chance of 50-50 division on a lucky strike. If signs of oil or mineral are found he still further outfits the prospector with equipment, wages, dynamite, derricks, hoists and the like. Oil equipment may cost from $7,000 to $50,000. The West and Middle West are pockmarked with such useless holes in the ground, where more money has been blown in than ever in all time can be blown out. The professional promoter is scared over the war. He is afraid the war will leave him stranded in the bottom of one of his dusters or dry holes. The law of average is one out of every 100 ventures turning out to be a lucky strike. If the proposed tax law on oils, gases and minerals goes through, war taxes and excess profit taxes will absorb from 80 per cent. to 94 per cent. of profits on this one lucky strike, leaving from 20 to 6 per cent.

The third factor in oil, gas and mineral production is the big company. In the case of oil and gas the big company shareholders are the general public. They take over the properties from the promoters and whip them in shape for dividend yielders. They build the pipe lines for oil fields, and the tank ships to transport the oil to the war and act in general as the middlemen between producers and consumers. Because their capitalization is large and their bonded indebtedness also large, they are not so hard hit by the new system of taxation, but they are frightened. If the prospector is put out of business and if the promoter is put out of business, where is their supply of raw material to come from?

Those are the facts. They should be looked squarely in the face.

America to-day has four months supply of oil above ground.

We are to-day going 60,000 barrels a day short of average production.

More than 20,000 industrial plants to-day depend on natural gas for fuel. When oil prospecting stops natural gas prospecting stops.

The whole thing is up to Congress.

AN OIL PROSPECTOR.

NEW YORK, October 4.

CHILDS'S PRICES.

The Restaurant Company Explains Its Revision of Its Bill of Fare.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* We wish to deny the charges in reference to our Washington store made in an article entitled "Childs Restaurant Near Seizure," which appeared in THE SUN on October 3.

The truth of the matter is that the change in our price list was made to concede to the wishes of the Food Administrator in accordance with our policy of compliance and cooperation with the Food Administration.

No attempt was made to take advantage of war conditions as stated in this article. An adjustment of prices and portions was proposed and inaugurated in our Washington store to enable the management to meet a situation which had grown out of the unusual conditions there, the patronage being such as to impose extra heavy burdens on the operating force and necessitate an extra large wage account, as well as to meet the constant advances in the price of food and commodities.

The price adjustment proposed and undertaken was fair to all concerned and would have netted the company no more than pre-war profits, as it was based on the same principle of price regulation as has always been used, and on which the company has built its business.

The Food Administrator no doubt acted in all sincerity in making his request, but was not well informed as to the conditions which influenced us to make the adjustment in prices. We, however, do not question or complain, but see our duty in the line of submission and cooperation, and are willing to sacrifice all for our country's sake if necessary.

CHILDS COMPANY.
WILLIAM CHILDS, General Manager.
NEW YORK, October 5.

COTTAGE CHEESE.

An Honored Dish of Our Sturdy and Well Living Ancestors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Cottage cheese, known in my youth as "Dutch" cheese, was a staple dish with the Hollanders who settled New York. I have been told that sometimes they kept it for months exposed to gentle heat, as between feather beds, until it became hard in composition and stinging in flavor, when it was grated and eaten.

It has never been a novelty upon my own table or that of my people before me, and its preparation is so simple that to teach it seems to me like giving instructions for boiling water.

When milk has soured and become curdled or thickened, put it in a double boiler and set on the back of the kitchen range, where it is hot but will not boil the water in the lower vessel. Go off about your business and let it severely alone.

After a few hours the curd will be found a compact mass floating in a clear liquid, unless the water has boiled. Turn it into a jelly bag and hold the open mouth of the bag beneath the cold water faucet. Let the water run until the sour whey is thoroughly washed out. Hang up the bag and let it drain until comparatively dry. Don't squeeze. Then add an infinitesimal portion of salt, some sweet butter and thick sweet cream, mash fine with a fork and serve.

It is too good to spoil by mixing with other things, unless you prefer less cream and butter, and serve on lettuce with mayonnaise dressing.

MRS. SMITH.

JOHNSON'S CROSS ROADS, Pa., October 4.

IS CAMPHOR A CURE?

Encouraging Report From One Who Used It for a Cold.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* An old fashioned New England remedy for colds, influenza, &c., and possibly hay fever, is the inhalation of spirits of camphor.

A week or so ago the writer was attacked with all the symptoms of a hard cold or influenza. With visions of the prevailing epidemic uppermost he placed a few drops of spirits of camphor in his handkerchief and sniffed it for a few moments.

In a half hour he repeated the operation and then went to bed with his nasal organs in normal condition and no more evidence of that impending distemper.

In the morning, to clinch the thing, he took a few more sniffs of camphor, and has had no more cold troubles.

Can it be possible that some simple remedy like this, taken in its incipient stages, would sound the knell of the present "Spanish influenza" epidemic? I wish some of your readers would try it out and report results to THE SUN.

T. F. W.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., October 5.

POLARIS SURVIVORS.

A Revision of the Opinion Formed on Mr. Meyer's Death.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUN of Thursday, October 3, you published an article on the death of Frederick Meyer, said to have been the sole survivor of the Polaris Arctic expedition from 1871 to 1874. This is an error, inasmuch as I have a communication in my possession from the late Frederick Meyer acknowledging the fact that I am one of those who took part in that expedition.

You will therefore please note that I am now actually the sole survivor of the expedition above mentioned.

CHARLES KRUGER.

BROOKLYN, October 5.

HE COUNTED THEM.

Statistical Record of a Short Journey in Manhattan.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A trip to Muldoon's is no longer necessary. "Meandering in the subway" is less expensive and far more interesting.

I rode south on a Broadway express with the Lexington avenue corner of Forty-second street as my destination. I arrived at Times Square and walked:

Two hundred steps to stairs.
Seventeen steps up stairs.
Thirty-eight steps to stairs.
Five steps down stairs.
Two hundred and fifty steps to shuttle train.
Three hundred steps to stairs.
Nineteen steps down stairs.
Seventy steps to stairs.
Nineteen steps up stairs.
Sixteen steps to stairs.
Twenty-three steps up stairs.

Then I was at Lexington avenue.
Counted 'em all, honest to goodness!

LOUIS GEIS.

NEW YORK, October 5.

Mr. William Benjamin Thom of Thom & Bailey asks THE SUN to inform its readers that the letter headed "A Displeased Friend" published in THE SUN on Friday, October 4, was not the product of his hand, but came from another citizen bearing a name similar to his.

BUREAU TO WATCH ALL WAR CHARITIES

Association of Organizations Has the Approval of Secretary Baker.

TO INCREASE CONFIDENCE

Plans to Aid in Improvement of Methods and End Collection Waste.

The National Investigation Bureau, an association of "war chests" and similar organizations, has been formed to make a thorough investigation of all war charities and related activities. The plans have been approved by Secretary of War Baker and announcement has been made that the bureau has received the acceptance by the United States Government of its approval of the following organizations: American Red Cross, American Library Association, Commission of Relief in Belgium, Jewish Welfare Board, Knights of Columbus, Salvation Army (work with expeditionary forces), Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A. and War Camp Community Service.

The bureau will issue to its members detailed reports on war organizations, covering every point of administration, financial accounting, methods of raising money, efficiency of work, degree of duplication, &c. Investigators will be sent abroad in the immediate future.

"The bureau," says the official prospectus, "does not propose to act as a critic. It hopes to be of service to such organizations as are doing a necessary work, in helping them to improve their methods, so as to increase public confidence."

The bureau was founded by the War Chest Associations of Cleveland, Syracuse, Indianapolis, Columbus, Detroit, Rochester, Philadelphia and Toledo. Samuel Mather, chairman of the Cleveland War Council, is the president. Barry C. Smith, for many years secretary of the Bureau of Advice and Information of the New York Charity Organization Society, has been appointed director. Offices have been established in Room 140, Meropolitan Tower, 1 Madison avenue.

The requirements which war organizations soliciting funds will be expected to meet to obtain the bureau's approval, include the following:

"No solicitors on commission or other commission methods of raising money. No street soliciting or selling of buttons, tags, &c., except during 'drives.'

"No entertainments, the expenses of which exceed 30 per cent. of the gross proceeds.

"Non-use of the 'remit or return' method of raising money."

The Charity Organization Society of New York will discontinue its investigation of war charities and the work will be taken over by the National Investigating Bureau.

A LETTER FROM HELL.

Popular and Official Protest Against a Clerical Suggestion.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* My attention has been called to an article printed in the current edition of our local newspaper, the *Gehenna Gazette*, quoting THE SUN's report of a mass meeting held under the auspices of the Union League Club of your city on October 3, which was addressed by the Rev. George Ellsbree of your city and to which that gentleman expressed a determination which I deeply resent. I desire to make my opposition known to the Rev. Mr. Ellsbree, but as the opportunities for communication between myself and members of his profession may fairly be said to be practically non-existent, while your relations with men of the cloth are known to be of an intimate and satisfactory character, I am forced to ask your assistance in this important matter.

The *Gehenna Gazette*, quoting THE SUN, represents Mr. Ellsbree as saying:

We are going to send the Kaiser and his damned agents—pardon me, Potsdamed agents—straight to hell.

On behalf of the government and population of Hell I appeal to the Rev. Mr. Ellsbree not to carry into effect the plan herein announced, for the reason that neither the administration nor the inhabitants of Hell can stand the Kaiser. A canvass of our population made by some of the recently arrived Bolsheviki discloses a unanimous and deep seated objection to the introduction of Wilhelm into our community.

In the last four years thousands of his underlings have arrived among us, to the serious embarrassment of our people and the dislocation of our public affairs. Fortunately for us they are of a singularly docile disposition, and consequently have done us practically no material damage. It has been possible for us to force them to conform to our standards, but their intellectual level is so low that their appearance here has given great uneasiness to the Hades Education Commission and seriously menaces the future of our institutions. These things, however, we regard as ordinary burdens of public administration and deal with through routine agencies; but the coming of the Kaiser would involve difficulties we hesitate to attack.

We foresee that should he be imposed upon our citizenship the whole scheme of our institutional and social life must of necessity be revised.

We possess at present no facilities, material or moral, to fit the Kaiser's case. We should be obliged to establish a special department for his detention and punishment. Our police would require expansion to protect the public generally from contamination through chance intercourse with him. The resentment of the public upon his inclusion in our numbers would unquestionably lead to serious domestic disorders which might involve clashes with the subjects of neighboring Powers and even precipitate a general conflict of far reaching possibilities.

It has been suggested that a special Hell be established for the Kaiser's exclusive occupancy. In some way the report has obtained circulation that I indorse this fantastic scheme. Such is not the case. Were the Kaiser to have a Hell of his own he would soon organize it on the Prussian model and seek to obtain possession of my historical domain. Naturally I oppose every plan which might eventuate in such a calamity.

It may appear presumptuous for me to offer unsought counsel to those who are now arranging the Kaiser's future. Yet I shall risk censure by remarking that the most appropriate place for the Kaiser after the war will be in the restored kingdom of Belgium. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NICK. SATAN, Devil.

HELL, October 4.

RED CROSS WORK IN ENGLAND GROWS

American Organization Alone Spent $4,313,568 in Nine Months.

THREE HOSPITALS ADDED

More Than 600 Women Engaged in Caring for Needs of Invalid Soldiers.

This week's instalment of the report by the American Red Cross, made public by the War Council in Washington yesterday, deals with the work and expenditures in connection with Red Cross activities in behalf of American fighting men passing through England and convalescing in British hospitals.

Expenditures in this work from October, 1917, to June 30, including contributions to the British Red Cross and British Ambulance Committee, total $4,313,568. For the work in the United Kingdom for the last half of this year an appropriation of $4,483,800 has been made.

It is pointed out that the policy of brigading American with British troops has greatly increased the work of the American Red Cross in England. Three new Red Cross hospitals, one with a capacity of 3,000 beds, are about completed, besides the number of smaller hospitals that are being operated by the organization, to take care of the increasing number of wounded American soldiers, sailors and marines landed in England from the camps and battlefields of France. The report says in part:

"All reports from the British field show that it is impossible to overestimate the value of the Red Cross work among the Americans troops passing through England. Men who have just landed upon a foreign shore after a long and arduous ocean voyage and can receive no formal welcome from their allies, because their comings and goings must be clothed in secrecy, appreciate deeply the friendly hand waiting to be extended them by their own countrymen through the American Red Cross.

Aid for Tuscania Survivors.

"Beginning with the moment the American soldier leaves the coast of the United States the American Red Cross is ready to help at the first call. When the Tuscania was torpedoed American Red Cross representatives arrived on the scene by the first train from London. They helped to equip the survivors, advanced money to the various agencies at work in caring for the unfortunates, covered all places where survivors could be located, visited practically all the sick and returned to England with the final detachment.

"A foremost place in any outline of Red Cross work must always be given to the hospitals. The importance of this branch of American Red Cross activity in Great Britain has been emphasized during the recent fighting in northern France, where American troops are brigaded with British. The American wounded from this area have necessarily to be taken to England, and the American Red Cross will endeavor to have every one cared for in American hospitals, with American physicians and nurses.

Three New Hospitals.

"Work is well advanced on three new American Red Cross hospitals in England. One of these, for naval men, is so near completion that it has been opened. It is located in London. The other two are military hospitals. One is at Salisbury, near Southampton, and the other is at Windsor Great Park. The Salisbury hospital will be the largest American military hospital in Great Britain. When completed it will accommodate 3,000 wounded. The site is a magnificent country seat of 186 acres and is well located for easy and rapid transport from the hospital ships.

"The entire charge of camp work in England is under one general manager who has a staff of twenty field directors. These men have full direction of the canteens, rest rooms and all the activities that go toward making the soldiers comfortable in the training camps. The supplies which the American Red Cross furnishes the soldiers is most varied in character, as will be shown by the following list distributed from the warehouses in one month: Sweaters, 30,000; blankets, 2,000; razor blades, 10,000; shaving brushes, 2,000; mirrors, 2,000; tooth brushes, 10,000; paper napkins, 500,000; cigarettes, 5,000,000; socks, 30,000 pairs; gloves, 10,000 pairs; matches, 300,000 boxes; soap, 8,000 pounds; sweet chocolate, 2,000 pounds; chewing gum, 50,000 pieces; tooth paste, 10,000 tubes.

Caring for the Sick.

"More than 600 women are now enrolled in American Red Cross work as members of the 'care committee.' This committee is immediately notified of the arrival in any hospital of an American soldier. Every one of these soldiers is visited at least once a week, supplied with comforts, letters written for him and everything possible done to make him comfortable. The average monthly calls of this committee are 5,000. Special effort is also made to put the men into communication with their friends and relatives at home, and thousands of articles made by mothers and sisters are placed in the hands of their boys by these American women.

"As the great battles continue and the Americans take greater and still greater part in the fighting in Flanders and Belgium the number of wounded returned to England will be greater. It is the aim of the American Red Cross to be so prepared that no matter what the demand it will be able to meet it."

Liberty Loan Drive.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE [illegible]—*Sir:* Touchin' on an' appertainin' to [illegible] Allen's suggestion that the name of Fifth avenue be permanently changed to "The Avenue of the Allies," permit me to go him one better by suggesting a temporary change to "Liberty Loan Drive." HENRY DISQUE DE M[illegible]

BROOKLYN, October 5.

TRADE BRIEFS.

Exports from Stockholm to the United States for the first half of the present calendar year were valued at [illegible], a total which is much reduced because of the embargo and tonnage [illegible]. The most important items were [illegible]ing tools, valued at $165,308; [illegible] separators, $157,440; steel products, [illegible]329; machinery and parts, $84,[illegible]; rough iron bars, $74,234.

Vice-Consul Hansen cables from Bangkok, Siam, that exporters of [illegible] and accessories should be warned against making shipments to Bangkok by way of Singapore without having previously obtained a transshipment permit from the Singapore Government.

Arrangements have been [illegible] the manufacture of kosher [illegible] Hull, England. The margarine [illegible] made exclusively of vegetable [illegible] and milk, the animal fats [illegible] margarine being omitted. [illegible] be tested and sealed by a [illegible] nominee, who will also supervise the manufacture. The local food committee will issue special licenses to retailers.